

John
Cain's Mark
AND
MURDER
K. Charls the I.

H I S
MARTYRDOM

Delivered in A
SERMON

ON
January the Thirtieth.

B Y
David Jenner, B.D. Prebendary of Sarum.

L O N D O N,
Printed by J. R. for John Williams at the Sign of the
Crown in St. Paul's Church-Yard. 1692.

22
Gains Street

MURDER

R. Charles the 1.

MARTYRDOM

SERMON

Preached at the

B. Y.

David James, B.D. Professor of Divinity

Printed by J. M. for John Williams in the City of the
Grown in the Strand Church-Lane 1831

To the Honourable
MARMADUKE DARCY,
Brother to the Right Honourable
COGNIERS DARCY
Lord **DARCY** and **MENIL.**

SIR,

THe following Discourse, being Clad in a mean Country Dress, and wanting the usual Ornaments of this Learned Age; High Strains of Oratory and Eloquence, and the brave Flourishes of Rhetorick, was never by me thought Worthy of an Imprimatur. But such has been the Importunity of some, and the Arguments of others; pretending the Publication thereof may tend to the Publick good, that is, to the Confirmation of some in their Loyalty, and to the Reducing of others from their Disobedience (which indeed ought to be, the

The Epistle Dedicatory.

Τὸ Ἄγαν, only Design of all our Endeavors,) as that, at last it has free leave to Walk abroad; and if it meets with any that are disaffected to the Present Government; I only request, They would first Candidly peruse it, before they Censoriously Condemn it: As for all others, I doubt not but their Charity will cast a Veil over all its Errata's.

And as for the reason of its Dedication unto your Honour, it is double.

First, Your High and Undeserved Favours bestowed upon my self:

Secondly, Your Eminent and Constant Loyalty, not only to His Present, but also to His Late Majesty of Ever Blessed Memory.

For it is well known, that you did not only make it your Duty, but your Delight (which is your Glory) to Serve His Late Majesty
in

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in the Extremity of His Misfortunes : And you were ever found (in the very Front) among those many Heroes and Worthies, which Fought and Suffered for Him.

And truly, were I not assured that your Modesty had rather your own Works, than my Pen should express your High and Great Merits; I could easily enlarge this short Epistle into a Volume. And willingly Expatiate in your due Praises, for venturing your Life and Fortunes in the Service of that Glorious Martyr King CHARLES the I. Who was a Good Man; in Aristotle's strictest Definition, i.e. καὶ Ἀριστὸν τελείαν, &c. Having in Him an happy Connexion of all the Virtues (Gradu Heroico) in the highest Degree.

And here, I cannot but admire, and be astonished, to read, that ANTONIUS TRIUMVIR, a Roman Heathen should have such an High Valuation for Varro's

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Varro's Learning; as, after Sentence, to pardon Him and Subscribe

Vivat Varro, Vir Doctissimus,

And that the most Exemplary Piety; the Universal Learning, and the wonderful Acquirements of our Ever Blessed Sovereign CHARLES the L. should not have the least Influence upon the Minds of his Murderers, and should not have caused them to Retrieve their own Unjust Sentence of Death, which they most Barbarously had passed upon him; nor at last prevail with them to Subscribe.

Vivat Rex, Vir Doctissimus, & Pientissimus.

But the All-wise God designed a better Life, and a more Glorious Kingdom for His Majesty; and therefore he permitted them to open the Cage and Tabernacle of his Body, that so his Immortal Soul might the sooner take Wing,
and

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and fly up unto the higher Regions of endless happiness; and there take Possession of that Incorruptible Crown of Glory, which the Holy JESUS (who was gon before) had prepared for Him.

Unto which place of Eternal Bliss, that your Honour, and all those, who have faithfully served their Prince and Country; May in due time, arrive, shall be the constant and daily Prayer of him, who is,

Noble Sir,

Your Most Humble Servant

DAVID JENNER.

The People's Dictionary

[illegible]

daily Prayer of him, who in
due time, will, shall be the constant and
loved Son, Prince and Saviour, 278
HONOUR, and all love, the love, and
unto which place of eternal life, will come

DAVID JENNIFER

(1)

Cain's Mark.

Genes's 4. 15.

The Lord set a Mark upon Cain, &c.

January the Thirtieth.



THIS *Day* and the *Text* are (I hope) pertinently, though (I am sure) unhappily met together; They making a sad and lamentable Report of a double Murder. The one committed upon the Person of Innocent *Abel*, the other upon the Sacred Majesty of King *Charles* the First of ever happy Memory. And you have the Authors of both deservedly *Marked* and *Branded* for the same: The *one* by the Hand of Justice, *as in the Day*: The *other* by God himself, *as in the Text*. *The Lord set a Mark upon Cain, &c.*

For Methods sake we shall begin First with the *Text*, and then Conclude with the Occasion and Matter of the *Day*. As for the *Text*, *The Lord set a Mark upon Cain, &c.*

It is necessary we Inquire,

First, *Into the Occasion* of these Words.

Secondly, *what was this Mark.*

Thirdly, *what should be the End and purpose of it.*

Lastly, *The Improvement of the whole.*

1. *As to the Occasion of these words.* It was *Cain's* Barbarous and Malicious Murthering of his Dearest and only Brother *Abel*: And his just fear of Gods Vengeance attending that his

vid. St. Aug.
civ. Del. l. 15.
c. 7, 8.

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Crime: He was in a Panick Fear and Dread, lest his Fellow-Creatures should become his Executioners, and Revenge his Brothers Death; especially, seeing the chiefest (if not the only) provocation he had for this his unheard of Fratricide, was nothing else but his own inveterate emulation; and Serpentine Hatred, arising only from Gods Approbation of his Brothers Offering, rather than of his. For God was infinitely better pleased with *Abels* Oblation being accompanied with honest simplicity, and sincere Heartedness, than with *Cain's*, notwithstanding all his pompous shows, and specious pretences of deep Devotion. And here by the way, we cannot but take notice, how much *Eva* was deceived and disappointed in her Expectations, (a sufficient Argument of Humane Frailty:) For after her Fall, God having blessed the Conception of her Womb, and having Enriched her with a Son, She presently (*Jonah*-like) fondly sets her heart and affections upon him, and Names this her First-born (177) *Cain*, that is, *Possession* and *Fullness*. But her Second Son She calls (178) or (179) *Abel*, that is, *Vanity* and *Unprofitableness*. By which diversity of Names evidently appears a diversity of affection in the Mother, and it shews us the preposterous Love of lapsed Mankind, as also the shallowness of our Judgments, in that we oftimes highly esteem, and eagerly value that *most*, which in truth is *worst*, and make that the object of our choice, which God refuseth; and commonly place our joy and Contentment in that which proves our greatest Cross, and occasion of Sorrow. Further, this minds us of another Truth, to wit, that innocent good Men in this World, many times (even like *Christ* and *Abel* from their Minority) are had in less regard, Reputation, and esteem, than the Wicked and Debauched *Bravado's* of the Age. Thus we find im-

partial

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3

partial *Aristides* Banished for his Virtues, Pious
Socrates (a) Martyred for his Religion, whilst
 Atheistical and Scoffing *Aristophanes* has the *Eag*
 and Applause of the People. Thus an *Esau* is
 preferred before a *Jacob* by his Indulgent Father
Isaac, and here, a *Cain* before an *Abel* by his fond Mother
Eva. Whereas God Almighty looks not at the outward Fea-
 tures and Beauty of the Body, but at the inward accomplish-
 ments and Rectitude of Mind, at the Sincerity, Uprightness,
 and Integrity of Heart. And upon this account it was (as
Justin Martyr well expresseth it) that God rather accepted
 of *Abel's* than *Cain's* Offering, *Scilicet*, Because *Abel* gave God of
 the Best, but *Cain* Offered the very worst of his Flock and
 Fruits. *Justin Martyr*, (Τὸ καὶ μὲν ἁγίασμα καὶ τὸ εὖ καὶ τὸ κακόν, &c.)
 And thought to put God off with any small present, whereas
Devout Abel thought nothing too Good, too Rich, or too
 Costly for that God who had been the bountiful Doner and
 Bestower of all that he enjoyed. *Cain* was willing to live up-
 on, and (pardon the expression) to Farm Gods Earth, but
 very unwilling to pay him the least Moyerty, Duty or Tyth
 justly due for the same. And therefore God (the searcher of
 Hearts) does most righteously reject *Cain's* Person and Obla-
 tion, the which unexpected accident *Cain* enviously observ-
 ing, does immediately boyl with anger, and swell with in-
 dignation, for the Context, v. 5. assures us, that *Cain* was
 exceeding wrath, and his Countenance fell: Where (by the
 way) we may again take notice, that Hypocrites (such as
 was this *Cain*) cannot endure to be called, reputed, or ad-
 judged such, no, though they are truly conscious to them-
 selves that they are no other, nor are they willing to be serv-
 ed in their own kind, nay, they will not give God himself
 leave to deal with them according to their own Rule, nor as
 they

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they deserve, for *Cain* will fret and fume, if his false heart, and Hypocritical Sacrifice be detected, and rejected by God. Nor does his Rage stop here, but presently in despite and Revenge to God (the Discoverer of his Hypocrisie) he Plots the Felonious Murther and Slaughter of one of *his* Innocent and chiefest Creatures: Nor is he ever satisfied, untill he has imbrued his Hands in his Brothers Vermilion Blood. And this should caution us all not to Retain the least Envy and Malice in our Breasts against any Person wharever, but especially not against our Brethren, Friends, and Relations, least that, these Embers and Sparks break forth at last into an unquenchable Flame. It is an *Ancient* but true saying, that *Old Anger proves Cursed and irreconcilable Malice*. For *Malice* seldom gives over until it has effected the ruin and destruction of the party it Opposes. Wherefore, as the Apostle adviseth, *Let not the Sun go down upon our Wrath*, Ephes. 4. 26. But stop we evil beginnings in a Pious Zeal, and prevent we such Malicious Designs and purposes by a Godly Care. Thus much for the occasion of these Words, *The Lord set a Mark upon Cain*.

2. *In the next place*, we are to enquire into the nature of this *Mark*, which God affixed upon *Cain*, and truly here we are at a loss, not having any certain Rule to guide us, the *Holy Scriptures* (for Reasons best known to the *Omniscient Spirit*) being wholly silent in this particular: So that, what we have concerning it, we must borrow from Tradition, which at the best is but fallible (in as much as 'tis humane:) But yet not to be despised, but rather owned and revered, as long as such Traditions deliver nothing contrary to the revealed Word of God, but are consistent with the same, as also with the Rule of Faith and

and good manners. This being premised, I shall give you a brief Account of this *Mark*, as we have it in the best and most Authentick Writers, for to name the fancies of all *Authors* as to this matter, would be endless, and some of them fruitless, being little else but the extravagant fancy, and incredible product of a wild Brain, such as that which the great *Antiquary Selden* mentions in his *Synedria veterum Hebraeorum*, when speaking of *Adams* punishment for eating the forbidden fruit, he tells us, that it was a Tradition, that *Adam* sat many years (some say an 130) before he begat *Seth*, in Water up to his Nostrils (*in aqua sederit usq; ad naves, ob peccatum illud, quod de Arbore vite comedendo commisisset* &c.) And from hence rose many Superstitious Customs and Ceremonies used by the Jewish *PENITENTIARIES*, as *Buxi. rf.* has noted to our hand. And 'tis believed by some, that *Cain*, being accursed, Banished, or rather *excommunicated* from the Society of the Church of God, for so *U. 22*: which we translate Vagabond and Wanderer, do signifie, (as hereafter more at large.) Did in the like manner do Penance in Water for his notorious Fratricide.

But to let pass this fabulous Story, and to come nearer to the business in hand, some affix this Mark unto *Cain's* whole Body. Others confine it only to some particular part and Member thereof.

Of the first sort are those who make this Mark to consist in a Paralytical fearful trembling of all his joynts, Head, Hands and whole Body, especially at the sight and occurrence of any living Creature, whether Man or Beast, such being his dreadful reflections upon his horrid Guilt, as that he feared every Creature he met with would prove the Harbinger of Death unto him, notwithstanding God had

quently, a *Countenance* and *Face*, and sometimes an *Angry Countenance*, and next because the *Countenance* is, *in a index*, as *Buxtorf* notes, the Discoverer of a Mans inward wrath and *Anger*. And 'tis believed by some that *Cain* looked thus, i. e. *furiously*, *angrily*, and *discontentedly*; so that who ever saw him might easily conjecture him to be the *Murderer*, none ever looking with such an unkind *Aspect* and frightful hugh as did *Cain*, in so much as that his *Murder* might be read in his *Eye*, and by the wretched forlorn cast thereof, Men might soon perceive the late *Murderous Act*, bad habit and intent of his Mind: For you know who says it, *Animus habitat in oculis*, the Mind dwelleth in the *Eye*, and by the several *Aspects* and *Casts* of the *Eye*, many *intrinsecal Vices* (as well as *Virtues*) are commonly discerned. In Holy Scripture we read of an *Evil*, as well as of a good, *Eye*; *Prov. 23. 6. Eat not the Bread of him that hath an evil Eye.* (אִי טַב) that is, eat not the Bread of him who hath a *Covetous Eye*, and in *2. Pet. 2. 14.* We read of an *Adulterous Eye*, as also in *Deut. 15. 9.* of an *Envious Eye*. *Take heed that thine Eye be not evil against thy Brother.* And in *1. Sam. 18. 9.* we read of a *Murdering Eye*, for 'tis said, that *Saul eyed David from that day forward.* *Montanus Arias* renders the words (*malignè aspiciens*) *Saul* looked upon *David* with an *Evil*, *Malicious*, *Murdering Eye*: So that, who ever had then beheld *Sauls Eye*, might easily have perceived the *Murderous* intent of his Mind against innocent *David*, and from hence (I mean, from the *Evil*, *Cruel*, *Envious*, and *Malicious Cast* of the *Eye*,) *Murderers* of old were usually called *אָנְטוּמל*, i. e. *Men Sour*, *Grimm*, *Fierce*, and *Savage* in *Countenance*. Much of this opinion was *Nebemaidet*, only he was grossly mistaken.

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ken in making *Cain's Countenance* to look so dreadful and so frightful, as that none of Mankind durst ever after associate with him, for the contrary appears, in that *Cain* had Society with, and a plentiful issue by, a *wife*, whom (if he did not Marry) he knew after he was thus stigmatized by God. v. 17.

But to wave this, the generality of writers conclude, that God did set some peculiar and visible *Mark* on *Cain*, and that from hence after Ages (in imitation of the Divinity) did fix *Marks* on persons, as Characteristical notes and signs, sometimes of their *Honor* and *Renown*, other while, of their *Shame* and *Naughtiness*. And these *Marks* were either *Divine*, *Ecclesiastick*, or *Civil*; *Divine* was that *Mark* which we read of in *Exek. 9. 4*. When God Commanded the *Angel* to *Mark the Fore-heads of all the Men that sighed and Mourned for the Abominations that were done in the midst of the City*.

As for *Marks Ecclesiastick*, *Justin Martyr* makes mention of them in his 118 Question, where he tells us, it was the Custom of the Church, that the Minister (*ὁ ἐκκλησιαστικὸς*) with his right hand did set a *Mark* on those that were baptized, but what was this *Mark*, he is not in that place pleased to tell us, though 'tis more than probable, that it was the *Sign* of the *Cross*, which is now in use.

Civil Marks were such as the Supream Authority did affix unto Men, either as Demonstrations of their *worth* and *Renown*, or else of their *Guilt* and *Punishment*, and these latter had commonly a mixture of justice and Mercy, they being inflicted not only as *Signs* of punishment, but also as *Marks* of favor, and of *Reprieve* from that Death which those

those Malefactors by their Capital Crimes had justly deserved, but were for certain wise politick Reasons Reprieved, however *Branded* for *Pecants*. Of this nature was both the *Gracian* and *Roman Mark* with which they were wont to *Stigmatize* Capital Malefactors, and usually they set either *Theta* or the *first Letter* of the Malefactors name: In like manner 'tis thought by some that *Cain* was Marked in the Fore-head with (*P*) *Coph*, the first Letter of his Name. And it is probable from hence the *Romans* borrowed their Custom of setting the Letter *C*: (which is equivalent with the Hebrew Letter *Coph*) on the Fore-heads of Notorious Transgressors: For with them (I mean the *Romans*) , was frequently tearmed *Litera Condemnationis*, as, *A*, was *Litera Salutaris*. What ever *Cain's Mark* was, we may be assured, it pointed out *Gods Mercy* and *Cain's guilt*, and consequently did declare his disgrace and ignominy, like those *Stigmatized* or Malefactors (for the tearms are *Synonymous*) among the *Romans*, whose lives indeed were spared but yet they were Branded with some infamous Letter in the Hand or Fore-head, whence *Pliny* call'd them *Inscriptos*: and others call'd them *Literatos*, from the Letters set upon them, thus the *Athenians* Branded their Enemies (the *Sami*) when they took them Captive, from whence arose the Proverb.

R. Sin.
Antiqu.

Samiis Neminem esse Literatiorem.

Rabbi Salomon (as quoted by *P. Fagius* and other Critics) is of opinion that *Cains Mark* was either the first Letter of *Jehova* or of his own Name, though others (and they of no small fame) Conclude, that *Cain's Mark* was indeed in his Fore-head, and that it resembled the figure and aspect of one of the *Seven Planets*, and that in

C

after

after ages the *Sons of Men* (which were the Posterity of *Cain*) soon became Idolatrous and Worshipped the Hoast of Heaven, to wit, the Sun, Moon and Stars: And they so far prevailed as that afterward they tempted the Sons of God, that is, the Seed of *Seth* unto the like Idolatry, For *Acts* 7. 43. *Ye, that is, ye Jews the Seed of Seth, Abraham and of Isaac, ye have taken up the Tabernacle of Moloch, and the Star of your God Remphan, Figures which ye made to worship them &c.* On which place *Oecumenius* writes, that this *Remphan* was a Star painted in the Fore-head of *Moloch*, and that it was usual for the Heathens of old thus to paint their Gods. And our *English Histories* assure us, that here in *Great Britain* (whose *Radix* signifies to paint,) about the time of the *Trojan War*, Men were wont to paint and Mark not only their *Idol-Gods* but themselves also with a *Star* in their Fore-heads. The like we read of the *Phenicians* and other Nations nearer the place where *Cain* and his Progeny lived, and 'tis probable after Ages did this in honor and in imitation of Old *Cain*, whom Tradition makes to be thus *Stigmatized and Marked*, in the Fore-head, with a *Star*: And thus *Cain's* posterity made and accounted that *Mark* a Badge and Emblem of honor, which God instituted to be not only a Token of future security and preservation, but also a signal *Mark* of present *Guilt*, and of Divine displeasure.

There is one opinion more (the most probable of all) and it is that which the Learned *Gregory* of *Oxford* mentions, to wit, that God did set some certain Letter of the *Hebrew Alphabet* on *Cain*: And this his conjecture is borrowed from that incomparable Critick *Gerundenus*, who tells us, that the Hebrew word (*קֶטֶף*) *Osh*, signifies an *Alphabetical Letter*, as well as *signum*, a *Mark*, and that the Hebrew

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Hebrew Text (לָמַד טָו) which we translate, *the Lord set a Mark upon Cain*, may as well be read thus, *the Lord set a Letter upon Cain &c.* Which Letter he and others think probably to be the Hebrew Letter (ט) *Tau*, which is the first Letter of the word (תְּשׁוּבָה) *Teshuvah*, that is, *Repentance*, for God did primarily design by this *Mark*, *Cain's Repentance* and conversion: And it is not to be forgot, that the very same Letter (ט) *Tau*, God Commanded the destroying Angel to set on the Fore-heads of all those good Men who repented, and mourned for the Abominations and Sins committed in the City. For because the above mentioned devout Persons, did seriously and after a godly manner, sorrow and grieve for the Sins of the *Land*: God Almighty when he commissioned his *Angel* to Kill and Destroy all the ungodly and wicked in the *Land*, gave to the said Angel a special Charge first to *Mark* with the Letter *Tau*, all those that truly *Repented*, and that were to be preserved from that common Destruction; for *Exek.* 9. 4. what we translate, *set a Mark upon the Fore-heads of the Men that sigh, &c.* May thus be read, as *Junius* observes; וְהָיָה טָו עַל כִּדְמוֹתָם that is, *set a Tau upon the Fore-heads of the Men that sigh, &c.* And *Vatablus* quoting the Hebrew *Rabbies*, says, they thus read the place, and so does *Drusius Tertulian* and *Orotius*, but they do not make this Letter *Tau* to be the first Letter of *Teshuvah* Repentance, but rather of (טוֹרָה) *Torah*, which signifies the *Law*, and then the meaning of the place is this, go set a *Tau* on all them who have conscientiously kept (the *Torah*) the Law of God, and have mourned and sighed for others transgressing the same. After this manner they conceive

And Tertull. ad-
versus Judaeos c. 12.
p. 104. 10. says the
same, super quos est
Tau signum ne ac-
cesserint.

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Cain was *Marked* in the Fore-head with the Letter *Tau*, which was to put him in mind of Two things. First, of *Torah* the Law of God which he had willfully broke, in Murthering his Brother. Secondly, of *Teshuvah*, His indispensable Duty of *Repenting*, and bewailing that his so diabolical Act.

And thus at large we have endeavored to give you the best account (we can) of the Nature of this *Mark* which God set upon *Cain*.

Thirdly, It follows that we enquire out the end and final Cause for which God was pleased to set a *Mark* on *Cain*, and in all likelyhood, Gods end was Two fold, either in respect to *Cain* himself, or else in regard to *Posterity*.

If in respect to *Cain*, then it was either a *Mark* of Punishment, or (Secondly) a Token of great Favor and Mercy towards him.

First, It was a *Mark* of *Punishment*, In as much as it signified *Cain's* Banishment and Excommunication out of the Glorious presence of God himself, and from the Communion of his Holy Church. For as it is a great Solace to a Pious and Devout Soul to enjoy God in the Society and Communion of his Church, so is it on the other hand a great Judgment to be deprived of the same: *Ignatius* in his *Epistle* to the *Ephesians*, excellently describes the Priviledges of Church-Fellowship, when he says, that if the Prayers of One Holy Man (such as *Moses*, *David*, or *Jacob*) have been so prevalent and powerful with God Almighty as to divert imminent Judgments, and to bring in Personal and National Blessings, if so, *Πόση μάλλον ἔτι οὖν ἑνὸς ἁγίου καὶ δικαίου ἀνθρώπου ἱκετικαὶ αἰτήσεις, ἀντίον αὐτοῦ ὄντος, &c.* How much more persuasive then

then are the Prayers of the Bishops and whole Church unanimously met together as in one *Chorus* to Laud and Praise God. And what can these Universal Prayers be, but as a thick cloud of Incense Ascending up from the Altar to the highest Heavens, and as the sweet Harmony and Melodious Consort of Celestial Musick, sounding in the Ears of the Divine Goodness? And as it is Heaven upon Earth thus to enjoy the Rayes and Beams of the Glorious Sun of Righteousness, shining full bright within the pale and Bounds of his Church; so on the other hand, it is the greatest punishment imaginable; yea, verily *Hell* upon Earth (though Erroneous and Debauched Men do not think so) to be deprived of the same, and swallowed up in worse than *Cimmerian* Darknes, to be delivered up to *Satan*, and cut short of the fruition of God and his Holy Ordinances: This (says that Ancient Father of the Primitive Church) is one of the greatest punishments any Man on this side *Hell* is capable of: And such was the punishment of Wicked *Cain*, implied and signified in his being *Stigmatised*. Now that *Cain* was thus *Excommunicated* and Banished from the Church of God, *Paulus Fagius*, *Bonfrenus* (as quoted in the *Synops. Crit.*) and the Learned *Bochartus* proves.

First, from *Cain's* being a Vagabond and Wanderer upon the Earth: For the word (*וָאֵן*) which we Translate Vagabond, *Buxterfenter* interprets to signifie *Exterrem*, that is, an Exile, a man Out-Lawd, one that is deprived of all Law Ecclesiastick and Civil, for so the *Exterres* were Sentenced, and therefore seeing *Cain* was such a one, he must necessarily be Excommunicated, and abridged of all Church Priviledges and Fellowship.

Secondly,

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Secondly, In that *Cain* is said (in the Verse immediately following the Text) to go out from the presence of the Lord, &c.

Discessit ab eo locis ubi Dominus illum convenerat, ubi tum erat Ecclesia & Catas piorum ad Cultum Dei Confluentium, &c. The summe whereof is this, that *Cain* departed from the place where God met him, and where the Church of God at that time was fixed, and went his way into *Nod*, that is, into a strange Country, or rather (*in terram Vagationis*) into a Land of Banishment and Exile, far remote from all Divine Worship, Ordinances, and true Religion; And there, in that Land of his Banishment, his Sons and Posterity became Idolatrous and extremely wicked; and well they might, being given up to vileness of affection, Reprobateness of Mind, and being shut up in Darkness and Spiritual Ignorance, they might soon be alienated from the true Church, and pure Worship of the ever living God: So then, as soon as *Cain* is become a Willful Murtherer; God Banishes him out of his Glorious presence, as also de-bars him from all Communion with the Church of God: From which passage of Divine Providence, we may (with the abovementioned Author) learn two special Truths.

First, That, *Malos non esse ferendos in Ecclesia, &c.* As soon as men are upon sufficient Grounds discovered and proved to be notoriously wicked, and enormous in their Actions and Conversations, they then ought to undergo the Churches Censure in order to their Amendment: And therefore as soon as *Cain's* Murther is Revealed and proved, God out of Hatred and Indignation to that his Sin, turns him out of his Favor, and Churches Communion, and all because, Virtue and Vice, Light and Darkness, God and Belial, may not cohabit, and dwell together. All care then, is to be used

used for the preserving Gods Church pure and spotless, without Wrinkle or Blemish: For as God Almighty at the Judgment Day will make a Separation between the *Sheep* and the *Goats*: So does he Authorize his *Bishops*, *Pastors*, and *Governors* of the Church *Militant* here upon Earth, to Separate the Notoriously *Bad* from the Eminently *Good*. As for *Hypocrites* and such *Wicked Men*, whose *Naughtiness* cannot be discovered nor proved, they being Masked over with an outward Profession and Form of Religion, and so lying undiscovered, must be tolerated in the Church, for they are the *Tares* which will grow up with the *wheat*: But as for all *Cain's* who are openly wicked, whose Villanies may be read in their Fore-heads, they are not to be permitted to enjoy so transcendent a Privilege as *Church Fellowship*, but ought to be presented in due Course of Law.

Secondly, From hence we may be informed of the many Dangers Ghostly and Bodily all *Excommunicated* Persons are exposed unto: (*Quantis in periculis versentur illi, & quam expositi sint Satana & omnibus Malis, Qui extra Ecclesiam sunt constituti?* &c.

A *Wicked Man Excommunicated*, like *Cain*, is from under the Protection and guard of Divine Providence, he is exposed to *Atens* Malice, to the *Beasts* cruelty, and lies open to all the fiery Darts of *Satans* Temptations. His Sin and Guilt subjects him to the vengeance and viols of Gods wrath, and he may well fear that every Creature will take up Arms against him, and become the *Executioner* of Gods Anger, and so pay unto him the Wages of his sin, which is *Death*, and that which is worst of all, he being *Excommunicated* Gods Church and Favor, is given up unto a *Reprobate* Mind, and unto all manner of Profaness, as was

Cain

Cain's Mark.

Cain and his whole Generation. But Secondly, this Mark set on Cain, was not only for a punishment to him as it denoted his rejeſtment and Excommunication out of Gods Church and Favor, but alſo in that it was a perpetual Brand and Mark of Infamy and Ignominy ſet upon him on purpoſe to diſcover unto all Perſons his foul fact, his horrid Murther and Guilt: Yea, briefly, it was as the Hand-writing on the wall, or as the Finger of God Pointing out and declaring to the whole world; *This, (a) This is the Murtherer, This is that curſed Cain who ſo maliciously ſlew his pious and innocent Brother Abel.*

As this Mark of Cain's was for his punishment, ſo like-
wiſe, was it for a ſpecial Token and Sign of Gods clemen-
cy and Mercy towards him, and that firſt,
in as much as it was a Mark of Preſervation,
and the aſſurance of a Long Life. God might
in his rigor and Juſtice have cut him off, in

St. Chryſ. Rom.
3. in Pſal. 144.
p. 5. 20. c.

the very Act of Sin, but (*ΕΙΣΘΕ & Αγαπετε Ου!*) unfathomable is the depth of Gods love, unconceivable is the immenſity of his Clemency, unſearchable are the Riches of his Mercies towards the Sons of Apoſtolized Man; he ſaves a live when he might juſtly have kill'd, and ſuffers them to tread upon his Earth, whoſe heavy load of guilt and ſin might well have preſſed and ſunked them down to the centre of it. Such is the Superlativenes of Gods Benignity, ſuch are the yearnings of his Bowels of Compaſſion towards Guilty-Cain, as that he does not only here in the Text, Reprieve him from the ſudden Execution of the Sentence of a ſpeedy Death, according to the Tenor of the Law made againſt Murther, but beſtow-
ed alſo Long-life upon him, which was a Mercy ſo great,

Cain's Mark.

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as that 'tis beyond conception and expression.

And that *Cain* lived long (*as the premises speak*) is an universal Tradition, and the Sacred Scriptures (those infallible Oracles of Truth) assure us that he lived to see his *Childrens Children*, it was a general opinion among the *Jews* that *Cain* lived unto the *Seventh Generation*: to this purpose, they read the words immediately before our Text.

whoever slayeth Cain, Vengeance shall be taken on him Seven-fold &c.

The *Hebrews* read them thus,

whoever slayeth Cain, at the Seventh Generation Vengeance shall take hold on him.

And thus *they* make the words propheticall of *Cain's* living unto the *Seventh Generation*, and of his being Kill'd in that Generation, and who ever should then Kill him should be severely punished. The same Tradition makes *Lamech* to be Author of *Cain's* Death. For whilest he was lying solitary in the Woods upon the Ground, *Lamech* (an Hunter) mistaking him for a wild Beast Shot, and killed him, for which Fact, *Lamech's* two Wives *Adah* and *Zillah* (v. 23. of this Chapter) would no longer live with him, but endeavored a *Divorcement* from him, he being a *Murderer*: Wherefore *Lamech* makes his just defence, and vindicates himself, and takes off their Accusation of *willful Murder*, alledging that he *lew* the *Man Cain* against his will, unawares, otherwise he had not done it; and therefore, if God did permit *Cain* (a willful and malicious *Murderer*) to live so long as to the *Seventh Generation*, he did not question, but God would suffer *Lamech* (who had at the worst committed only *Man-slaughter* unawares by mere *casualty*.) to live not only *unto seven*,

D

but

but also unto *seven times seven generations*, that is, unto a far greater number of years, than did *Cain*. *St. Chrysostome* is of opinion that *Lamech* was a very good and just man, and that because, ~~Mark~~ *Mark* ~~was~~ *was* ~~not~~ *not* ~~unjust~~ *unjust* ~~in~~ *in*

St. Chrysost. ~~century's~~ *century's* ~~Sec.~~ *Sec.* a good man is always the first ac-
In Gen. 4. cuser of himself; For such an one was *Lamech*,
Item. 10. who as soon as ever he had accidentally Kill'd a man, does not conceal it (as did *Cain*) but ingenuously Confesseth it, and therefore if *Cain* found mercy, much more *Lamech*.

But to conclude this particular, we will no longer traverse the above mentioned Tradition, nor dispute its verity or falsity, only this we are assured of, *scil.* That *Cain* lived long after the Commission of his detestable Fact, and the Signature on his Fore-head was a confirmation and sealing of the lease of a Long Life to him, all which was an undeniable Argument of Gods Goodness and Mercy towards him.

2. This *Mark* was a Token of great Mercy, in that God thereby did declare he would not only give *Cain* a longer time to live in, but also a longer time to repent in. For by thus delaying his Execution, God primarily aimed at *Teshuvah* his sincere Repentance and conversion, expecting that now he should redeem time, expiate and wash out (as much as in him lay) the stain of his blood-guiltiness in the Tears of Godly sorrow, of unfeigned Contrition and hearty Repentance: It being an unexpressible Mercy to have a Moment of time to repent in, and to sue for a pardon; but God be praised, this was *Cain's* good hap; whereas many (like *Zimri* and *Cozbi*) are cut off by the Hand of Justice in the very Instant, and *AT*, of sin.

Thus

Thus far we have heard how this *Mark* concerned *Cain's* own person.

It follows, that we enquire wherein it concerns us, and All men. The which it does, in as much as it is a *Mark* of *Cautiō* and *Warning* unto all men, that they do not presume to commit the same, or any other, sin; least God visit the sins of the *Fathers* upon the *Third* and *Fourth* Generation of them that hate him; and that will not keep his *Commandments*.

St. Chrysost.
Hom. 19. in
Gen. 3.

And although *Cain* found *Mercy*, yet it is a great question whether any who shall dare presumptuously to commit the like *Transgression* shall find the least *Mercy*, and that because, *posterorum peccata semper sunt graviora*, second sins are always the worst, not only in their Nature, but also in their dreadful consequences and effects.

2. This was a *Mark* of *Instruction* unto others, that they should not without special *Commission* from God and *lawful Authority* Kill any Man, no though he, were a *Cain*, a *Murderer*, and this is *St. Chrysostomes* note on the place, *ὁ δὲ θεὸς τῆς ἐκδουλῆς τῆς ἀνταγίας, &c.* Seeing all *Vengeance* belongs unto God and unto his *Vice-Gerents*, i.e. the *Higher Powers* upon Earth, it is not lawful for any private Man what ever to take upon him the *Executing* of the Law, nor to Kill any Man though never so criminal without a particular *warrant* from *lawful Authority*. (*Non licere privato cuiq; vel parricidam occidere, &c.*) It being (a) contrary to the very *Law of Nature* for one person to Kill another though he be never so *peccant*: And although we read of private persons Killing of others, as of *Ehud* (slabbing of *Eglon*, and of *Phineas* his running thorow *Zimri* and *Cozbi*, yet they either had a special command from God, or were *commissioned* by *Lawful Authority*, to do the same.

(a) *Grav. de jure belli & pacis.*

PARALLEL,

O R

K. Charles the I.

H I S

MARTYRDOM.



Having done with the *Text*, and its *Context*: It is requisite, that we make Application of the Premises, as far as they concern the Solemnity of the Day:

And to this purpose, we will briefly run *The Parallel* between them.

And consider, That, *As, in the Context*, We have an Holy and Innocent *Abel*, who is, in Sacred Writ, styled, *The Beloved, or Accepted of God*, as also, *a Righteous, the Just and Righteous Man*, Heb. 11. 4.

So, *in the Day*, we have a Pious and Religious *CHARLES*; the Etymologie of whose very *Name*, if taken from the *Latin* and *Hebrew*, speaks him to be *Charus-El*, one *Dear to, and Beloved of God*: Or, if taken from the *Greek*, *χαρις λαλ*, one *always wishing his People joy and happiness*: Or else, from *χαρις λαλ*, one

one

one that ever was the *Grace*, and *Glory* of his *People*: And which is infinitely more, he was, *1* *James* 5. *The Anointed of God*, and represented the Divine Majesty it self. And further, that he was like *Abel* also; *1* *Abel* 4. *The Just and Righteous Man*; is evident in that, rather than he would be unjust and unfaithful to his Trust, he chose to exchange a Corruptible Crown on Earth, for an Immarcessible One in Glory, and rather than he would wound his own Conscience, or wittingly wrong and injure his People by betraying their Rights and Privileges, he chose Death before Life, and resolved to part with all the endearments of this Life, though attended with never so great an affluence of Worldly Honor and Pleasure, then to forfeit his Interest in Heaven.

And, *as in the Context*, Divine Providence declared, that *Virtue* and *Goodness* being (*Calitus Nata*) *Heaven born*, are no proper Inhabitants of this lower sinful World; But, *Astrae* like, are Commissioned only for a while to View it, and then to withdraw behind the Canopy; being the proper place of their Residence was the glorious and highest Heavens. And therefore, God, in order to the Exaltation of his Devout Servant *Abel*, unto his promised Mansion of everlasting Rest, did permit wicked and envious *Cain* to give him an *Exit* hence, by treacherously and forcibly dislodging his Immortal Soul out of its Terrestrial and Fleishly Tabernacle.

So in the Day, The All-wise God, who superintends all Affairs and Transactions, was pleased, as on this Day, to loosen the Reins of Government, and to give Liberty unto Licentious Wicked Men, *Sons of Belial*, to vent their Spleen and Malice, in Assassinating the Sacred Person of our Dread Sovereign King *CHARLES the 1.* (who was too good to Associate any longer with sinful Mortals) that so he might the sooner be Translated from these inferiour Regions of

Sin

King Charles the first

Sin and Misery, unto a perfect state of endless Bliss and Happiness.

In the Text, You have a Notorious and Accursed Patricide.

In the Day, A most Malicious and Pernicious Regicide.

In the Former, You have the true Cause of Abels Death and Murder, to wit, his hearty Devotion, and sincere Piety towards God. 1 John c. 3. v. 12.

In this Latter, You have the Chief (if not the only) occasion of King CHARLES his being so Barbarously and Cruelly Murdered, to be His Pious and Heroick Resolution, to maintain the True Protestant Religion, in which he had been Educated and brought up, which highly incensed the Papists: As also, his unalterable Resolution, to preserve inviolably the wholesome Laws of the Realm, together with the just Rights and Privileges of the Episcopal-Protestant Church, which hugely enflamed the Dissenters, and made them miscall his firm Perseverance in true Virtue and Honesty, a Stubbornest of Will, and a Pertinacious Obstinacy: This was the prime Cause, for which Jesuitical Papists, and Deluded, Furious Dissenters, so unanimously Conspired the Ruin of that so excellent a Prince.

And therefore, *as Abel must die*, because he would not (like Cain) dissemble with, nor be false to his Maker, as St. John informs us, in the fore-mentioned Epistle.

So must King CHARLES die, not by the hand of Justice, but of Treachery, and all Because, he would not be perjured in violating his Coronation Oath, nor become Falsifragous and false to God and his Country.

And, *as faithful Abel would not* (to save his Life) *swerve from the Rule of Righteousness*, nor from the Rubrick of Gods Word and Command, nor would he Innovate by offer-

ing

ing up *false Fire* and *Incense* upon the Holy Altar, nor would he present *God* with the *Sacrifices of Fools*; but gave him the best of his *spleen*, and did *worship* him in *Spirit* and in *Truth*, and did maintain the Orthodox Religion in its Power and Purity, and for so doing, both His Person and Oblation found Acceptance with the *Allmighty*: Whereas on the other hand, irreligious *Cain* valued not the Laws of his Maker, whether Civil or Ecclesiastick, nor did he care to observe that *Form* and *Mode* of Divine Worship, which God had prescribed. But plaid the abominable *Hypocrite*, putting the *Allmighty* off with a little *Lip-Service*, and outward Formality; for which Dissimulation His Person and Oblation was deservedly rejected by God. And *Cain* being thus rejected, does immediately revenge himself upon his Innocent Brother. For his Breast boyling with Choler and Anger, his Heart swelling with Envy and Malice against *Abel*, he does without farther Deliberation, not only Plot and Contrive, but also unhappily accomplish and effect the Murthering of him.

As thus, *Abel* in the Context,

So King *CHARLES* in the Day, is most Inhumanely Destroyed and Murthered, for his constant maintaining the True Reformed Religion, the established *Episcopal Government* of the Church of *England*, the Righteous and Equitable Laws of the Kingdom. So that, once again, with Tears and grief of Heart, let us say it, Holy *CHARLES* was Murthered for his Piety and Faithfulness towards God; for his Zeal towards the *Protestant Church*, in defending her Doctrine and Discipline, her Rites and Government, in opposition unto all *Jesuitical, Factional Innovators*; witness his Learned Dispute with that Incomparable Scholar, the Old *Earl of Worcester*.

For, here we must premise, that if King *CHARLES* would have yielded unto the unreasonable and unconscionable Demands.

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mands of his Enemies both *Papists* and *Dissenters*, who joyntly desired an Abolition of the known and ratified Laws of the Realm, as also, an *utter Extirpation* of the established Government of the Church, and the *Introduction* of either the *old Superstitious Mode of Rome*, or the *new fangled Mode and Form of Geneva*, in Divine Worship: If his Majesty would have consented unto these their most unjust Demands, then indeed, he might have lived longer, though not without a galled and wounded heart.

But, *God be praised!* such was the height of his Faith, such the undauntedness of his courage, as that, this *Blessed Prince* chose rather to die *Manfully*, yea, *Gloriously*, with a good Conscience, then to live *Ignominiously* and *Shamefully*, with the stain and black spot of Guilt upon his Fore-head.

And, as, Righteousness and justice towards God and Man had been the drift and design of all his Actions, so, eternal Glory and happiness for himself, was the ultimate end of all his Desires and enterprises. And therefore, as he had not failed in the former, so, that he might not miss of the latter, he does most meekly and patiently submit to the cruel stroke of an unjust Death, and dies a *Martyr* for the *Reformed Protestant Religion*, a *Defender* of the *Protestant Faith*, a *patron* of the *Episcopal-Protestant Church*.

But to proceed in the *Parallel*,

As *Abel* was Murthered (according to Tradition) in his own Field, upon his own Ground; and that, not clarcarly, or privately, in a *Cellar*, nor covertly in a *Bed*: But, Audaciously in the *open Field*, in the full view of Heaven and Earth, which circumstance extreamly argued the *Bracen-Fore-head*, the Monstrous *Impudency* of *Cain* the Murderer.

So, *King CHARLES* was perfidiously Murthered and slain, not in a Forreign Country, nor in another Mans Territories,
but

But upon his own proper Ground, at his very own *Palace Gate*. Nor was this done in a *By-Corner* of the *Gate*, privately or obscurely, but in the sight of Thousands. For now, the Conspirators were so hardened in wickedness, and were grown so bold and confident, as that they desired no cloak to cover their Villany, and therefore they, now scorning to assault His *Royal Person*, sneakingly, in an inner Chamber, as *Ehud* did *Eglon*, or in a Bed, as *Hazael* did *Benhadad*, do, with a most prodigious Audacity, erect a Stage and Scaff ld under the open *Canopie* of the Heavens, on which they Act this Black and Horrid *Tragedy*, in the eye and view of the whole World.

And, as in the *Text*, God set a *Mark* upon *Cain*, which *Mark* was a token of the Divine *Mercy* and *Justice*, of the Divine *Clemency* and *Indigation*.

First, It was a *Mark* of *Favor* and *Mercy*, for thereby God did assure *Cain*, that although his Capital and unpardonable Crime, deserved present Death, yet he should not out of hand die, but have a *Reprieve*, and should live many, yea, hundreds of years, and accordingly *Cain* did live a long tract of time and years after this his horrid Fact and Murther, and did become in the World a very *Great* and *Potent Man*, and made himself an absolute *Prince* and *Monarch*. And as he was the first (we read of) who builded a *City*, so, he and his posterity were the first that *Lorded* it, and *Tyrannized* in the World.

So, in the *Day*, God set a double *Mark* upon the *Regicides*, one of *Favor* and *Mercy*, the other of *Justice* and *Indignation*. Of *Favor*, in that the hand of the Divine *Nemesis*, did not presently and immediately seize upon them according to their deserts, but benignly suffered them to live several years after the perpetration of their Hellish and Treasonable *Murther*.

And which is very remarkable, *Many* of them became *great* and *potent*, especially, as you all know, *one* among them

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Masaniello-like) exalted himself up into the very *Throne*, and became an absolute *Monarch*; making his own *Will* the Law and Standard of his *Actions*.

And further, *as in the Text*, God to shew his wonderful *Mercy* and *Clemency*, did fix a *Mark* upon *Cain*, which probably was (as you have heard) the Hebrew Letter, *Tau*, the first of *Torah*, the *Law*, and the first of *Teshuvah*, *Repentance*, thereby intimating, that this *Mark* should be his *Memento*, timely and heartily to *Repent* of his sin and Murther, by which he had wittingly transgressed, and broke the indispensable *Law* of God.

So, in the Day, God out of tender *Bowels* of *Compassion*, suspended and deferred the Execution of his Vengeance upon the fore mentioned *Delinquents*: Graciously adds, unto their Days, many years; hoping, that, as Murthering *Manasses* and *David*, so they, would at last, with a broken and bleeding heart, with a mournful and penitent eye, reflect back upon their unheard of Wickedness, and endeavor to wash away the stain and tincture of that their *Crimson* sin in the Tears of godly sorrow, and of Evangelical *Repentance*.

Secondly, as in the Text, *Cain's Mark* was a Token of the Divine *Justice* and *Indignation*; hinting to him, that although his Life for a while was reprieved and spared, yet his sin and Murther was not pardoned: For at last, Vengeance found him out, his sin and guilt at the long run, like a *Blood-bound*, as a *Lyon* skulking in the *Highway* seized upon him, for so the Word, *Gen. 4. 7*. Signifies, at last the vindictive justice of God over-took him.

So, in the Day: Although the Divine *Goodness* gave the above mentioned *Malefactors* a long space of time to live, and Repent, in, yet that *Forbearance* and *Indulgence* did not declare them pardoned and absolved: For, at last, their sin found them out,

out, the impartial hand of justice laid hold upon them, and brought them all to condign punishment. For, the Court of Judicatory, after a fair and legal Tryal, gave the Sentence of Death upon them.

And as Cain, so many of them, had a Reprieve after Sentence: For, such was the unparallel'd Clemency of our present Leige Lord and Sovereign CHARLES the second, as that several of the Regicides had the Execution of their fatal Sentence suspended, and some of them are alive unto this very Day:

But to conclude.

As Cain's Mark spake two things unto the Spectators and standers by, to wit,

First, That they and all persons which saw Cain, should mourn and pray for him, should bewail that his so great and so lamentable a Fall.

Secondly, that his miscarriage shou'd caution them and all men from ever committing presumptuously the same, or any other, Sin:

So, in the Day, two Duties are plainly hinted to us.

First, That we all hang our harps and Musical Instruments upon the Willows, and lay our hands upon our Mouths, and our Mouthes in the dust, Lament and Mourn for the detestable wickedness and Murder of the Day. And pray Almighty God, of his infinite Mercy, to forget and forgive the same: For otherwise, if we, (though possibly not born in 48, yet if we) should fail in this Duty, we shall contract to our selves the Guilt of the Day, and shall make our selves Accessory to the Murder thereof: For, by the Law of God and Man, that Man is deemed an Accessory, who knows of a Murder, and does not confess and discover it: Here is plainly a Murder committed, yea, the most malicious and most Barbarous one that ever was (except that of Christ.) And it is as plain and true, that we all

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know of it, But, if we in our hearts perfidiously conceal *This Murder*, and will not upon our bended Knees confess, and seriously bewail it, before God, we then make our selves *co-plotters* and *partakers* of the Guilt of this days sin: Wherefore, be we all entreated (of what perswasion so ever we be in other Matters) herein to Unite, and with one Heart, with one Mouth, to lament the *wicked* and *Anti-Christian Fact* of the Day, and say, *Psal. 51. 14. Deliver us from Blood-Guiltiness, O God, thou God of our Salvation, and our Tongues shall sing aloud of thy Righteousness.*

Secondly, from hence (*aliena pericula cautos*) be we cautioned not to Split upon the *same Rock*, nor to run into the *like*, nor into any other kind of *Disloyalty* whatsoever, least the same stroke of Vengeance reach us, as did *Those* of the Day. For *Rebellion*, if not timely and humbly confessed, if not heartily and sincerely repented of, never went unpunished: And although some *Delinquents* have ended their days in peace upon *Earth*, yet Guilt has pursued them beyond the *Grave*, even into the confines of another World, and there is great Reason for it, because, *as*, God severely punishes all Rebellion committed immediately and directly against himself, so, unless he will derogate from his own Glory and Prerogative, he must also severely punish all Disloyalty and Rebellion against his proper *Vice gerent* the King. And the Reason of the Assertion is this, *scil.* Because, who ever presumptuously disobey the King and the *Higher Powers* lawfully set over him, in truth and reality, Disobeys God himself: For God is struck at through the *Loyes* and *Sides* of his *Representative* by the Hand and Sword of Rebellion: And this is no other Doctrine than what *St. Paul* taught the Church of *Rome* to Practice, *Rom. 13. 1. Let every Soul be subject unto the Higher Powers, for v. 2. Whosoever resisteth the Power, resisteth the Ordinance of God; and the*

the Apostle enforceth the *Duty* with a cogent Argument taken, *ab incommodo*, from the evil and direful consequence that will certainly ensue upon *Presumptive Disobedience* to, and *audacious Resisting* of, the Higher Powers, to wit, no less then utter *Damnation*; for *They that resist, shall receive to themselves Damnation*. v. 2. &c.

Q. If it be asked, how far, and in what things we are to Obey our King and Prince?

Ans. In all things, that are either, *in themselves Lawful*; or, *in themselves indifferent before Commanded*.

We believe none but *Enthusiasts*, and *Anti-Monarchical*, or *Fifth-Monarch-Men*, will deny their Obedience as to things *in themselves Lawful*: The only difficulty is, as to things *indifferent before Commanded*. For some will plead, they have a *Christian Liberty* to Obey, or not to Obey, as their own Reason, and private Judgment shall direct in things *indifferent*.

As to this Objection, we freely grant the *Assertion*, to wit, that we have a *Christian Liberty* in things *indifferent before Commanded*, to do or not to do, *pro re nata*, as prudence shall direct.

But the Case is altered in our present Dispute; For, *nothing* is any longer *indifferent* to be done, or not to be done, when once *Lawfully Commanded*.

If you demand the Reason, for which a *thing indifferent before Commanded*, ceases any longer to be so, after Commanded by Lawful Authority, it is this, because otherwise, the *Regal Power* and *Prerogative* would be Nullified, and instead of it, an Unbounded and Anti-Christian *Libertisme* would be introduced destructive of, and pernicious to all Christian Government and Magistracy: which evil to prevent, God has given the *King* and *Supreme Magistrate* an absolute Power.

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Power to make Laws, and to impose by Law upon his Subjects not only *things in themselves Lawful*, But also *things indifferent*, as in His Royal Wisdom he shall think most Conducing to the Glory of God, to the Honor and Preservation of His own Person, and to the Safety and Welfare of the Church and State, *Both which* are (under God) immediately Committed to His Care and Protection. For otherwise, if every private Man had a Power and Liberty in *things indifferent*, to Obey or not to Obey, when lawfully Commanded; then (as was said before) the *Kings Prerogative* in matters Civil and Ecclesiastick, would be invaded, and the *King* would cease any longer to be, *the Defender of the Faith*: He would be only *King* in Complement, in Name and Title; but the Quarrelling and Disputing Subject, will be *King*, in Truth and Reality.

And in our apprehension, nothing can be more Diametrically opposite to *Kingly Government*, and to true *Christianity*, then this *Disloyal* Principle and Practice of disobeying the *King* in *things indifferent*, when once lawfully Commanded.

We are sure, *Christ* did not Clip the Wings of *Regal Power*, but strictly Commanded his *Disciples, Apostles*, and all Men, to give unto God the *things which were Gods*, and to *Cesar* the *things which were Casars*, and to show Honor to whom Honor is due; Obedience to whom Obedience is due: And

R. 13 7. 1 Pet.
2. 13. 17.

St. Paul and St. Peter do require our Obedience, in all things Lawful and Expedient; unto *Kings*, and unto all, that are put in Authority over us, and that, not only for Wrath, but for Conscience sake.

Q. And if you further Query, what you ought to do in case the Higher Powers should Command your Obedience, in things absolutely unlawful?

Ans. In this Case, although you must not *Actively* do what is Commanded; but you must Obey God, rather than Man,

as did the Apostles. *Act. 4. 19.* Still, for all this, although you may not *Actively* Obey your Prince, by doing what is Commanded: Yet, you *must not rebel*, nor *take up Arms* against your Prince; but, in this Case, you must obey *Passively*, by patiently and peaceably submitting to what Punishment soever the *Supreme Magistrate* shall think fit to inflict upon you: Yea, though it be *Death* it self: For by so doing, (*and by so doing only*) you will suffer, as a good Christian, as a Martyr for the Truth, as a Loyal and Obedient Subject to your Prince: And, if in any case, a Frail Creature can, you in this case, will, deserve and merit, a Crown of Glory.

But, in all other Cases, when either a thing lawful in it self, or, a thing indifferent in it self is Commanded, then, if you Obey *Passively*, and not *Actively*, you render your self *Rebellious* to your Prince: And, if your *Passive Obedience* should be unto Death, then you become a *Self-Murderer*, in that, you wilfully threw away your Life, (which you ought to have preserved) by dying, for Obeying your King only *Passively*, when in Conscience you ought to have Obeyed him *Actively*.

But, although we take this Freedom to argue with you, yet we hope better things of you, and are perswaded, that as we have diligently Preached *Loyalty*, so, you will, as Conscienciously practice it: And will in your Hearts, in your Words, and in all your Actions, publick and private, express your *Fear of God*, and your *Honour of the King*.

God Save the KING.

A M E N.